

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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NEWS RELEASE

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UNLICENSED AUTO REPAIR SHOP OWNER SENTENCED TO PRISON

Case underscores Department of Consumer Affairs' efforts to halt unlicensed operators

YUBA CITY – A Yuba City man has been sentenced to prison as a result of a Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair (DCA/BAR) investigation.

Henry Trejo plead guilty today in Sutter County Superior Court to six counts of grand theft and was sentenced to three years in state prison.

Trejo was convicted as a result of a DCA/BAR investigation that found he took more than \$22,000 for auto repair work that was not performed.

A restitution hearing for the eight victims has been scheduled for August 5, 2011. Trejo is also facing charges of unlicensed activity, elder abuse and embezzlement in Yuba County.

If you have had collision repairs to your vehicle, you may want to have your vehicle checked out as part of BAR's free Auto Body Inspection Program. To make an appointment, please call 1-866-799-3811.

BAR encourages consumers to remember the following tips before taking your vehicle to an automotive repair shop:

Verify the Automotive Repair Dealer's license is valid by checking online at www.bar.ca.gov or call 1.800.952.5210.

- Ask for a written estimate for any repairs before work begins.
- Ask for the return of any parts replaced during the repair.
- Ask for a detailed final invoice up completion.

The Department of Consumer Affairs promotes and protects the interests of California consumers. Consumers who wish to file a complaint against an auto repair facility can contact the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at www.autorepair.ca.gov.